

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1 through 16 are pending in the application, of which claims 5, 17, and 36 are being amended under Rule 312. The claim amendments add no new matter and their entries are respectfully requested:

Claim 5 is being amended to add the word "and" before "copper".

Claim 17 is being amended to add the phrase "at least one of" before the word "germanium".

Claim 36 (d) is being amended to replace the "," between "metal" and "and" with ";".

The amendment is provided to add a necessary word to the claim and/or to cosmetically improve the claim language. The cosmetic claim changes also do not affect the scope of the claims; and thus, the scope of the doctrine of equivalents applied to these claims should not be limited under the rules of *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, 535 U.S. 722, 2002 Lexis 3818 (May 28, 2002).

CONCLUSION

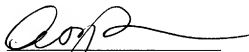
Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the above remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

JANAH & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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By:


Ashok K. Janah
Reg. No. 37,487

Please direct all telephone calls to:

Ashok K. Janah
(415) 538-1555